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DATE: Wednesday, March 23, 2005

Hide?	Set Name	Query	Hit Count
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☐	L5	(client near2 (disc or disk) near2 configur$7)	12
☐	L4	L3 same client	2
☐	L3	L2 same configur$7	68
☐	L2	(sav$4 or restor$4) near3 (device or peripheral or disc or disk) near3 state	1168
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END OF SEARCH HISTORY

First Hit Fwd Refs Previous Doc Next Doc Go to Doc#

Generate Collection Print

L5: Entry 9 of 12 File: USPT May 26, 1998

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5758165 A
TITLE: Local area network and network operating system for formatting a client disk and installing a client operating system

Detailed Description Text (17):
Server disk 203 contains the disk images which are to be copied onto client disks 208. A different disk image is required for each different configuration that is to be written onto client disk 208.

Detailed Description Text (20):
It will be obvious to one skilled in the art that schemes could be employed to reuse portions of disk image files in initializing client disks 208 without departing from the sprit of scope of the present invention. Likewise, empty portions of client disks 208 could be algorithmically generated rather than copied. If there are a large number of configurations of large client disks, then such optimizations may be significant.

Previous Doc Next Doc Go to Doc#

L5: Entry 7 of 12 File: USPT May 20, 2003

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6567774 B1
TITLE: Method and system for configuring and updating networked client stations using a virtual disk and a snapshot disk

Detailed Description Text (13):
The snapshot disks are mapped to the master configuration identifier files on virtual disk 22. The snapshot disks are exported to client stations which are to be configured using the snapshot, and the client stations are configured accordingly. Pointers contained in the snapshot.disks permit configuration information, as appropriate, to be retrieved from the servers 16 and installed in the local memories 13 of the client stations 12.

CLAIMS:

14. A system for configuring and updating the configuration of networked client stations, comprising: one or more storage devices including respective configuration information for configuring client stations connected via a network to each other and to the one or more storage disk devices, wherein each of the client stations is configurable with respective configuration information; one or more virtual disks respectively containing configuration information identifiers each including a representation of respective configuration information and mapping information pointing to corresponding one or more of the locations in the storage devices where the respective configuration information is stored; and, a logical copy of each of the one or more virtual disks from which a second virtual disk is respectively created for updating the configuration of any of the client stations; wherein each of the client stations obtains respective configuration information with the one or more virtual disks and the configuration information identifiers therein, and each client station obtains an updated version of the configuration information with the second virtual disk.

L5: Entry 6 of 12 File: USPT Jun 1, 2004

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6745286 B2
TITLE: Interface architecture

Detailed Description Text (282):
One advantage achieved by the aforementioned distributed configurations is that they may provide increased data protection and/or fault tolerance. For example, if the replicated server node 150 fails or becomes unavailable, the second replicated server node 151 can handle client requests without service interruption. Another advantage achieved by using this interconnected arrangement is that alternative server node access paths 165 can be created where identical data can be read simultaneously from the two or more interconnected server nodes 150, 151. Thus, if one server node 150 in the cluster is busy and unavailable, another redundant server node 151 can service client requests to increase data throughput and accessibility. As with the single server node configuration, a plurality of clusters 160 may be present and accessible to the clients 110. Similarly, the clusters 160 can be configured to present a single disk image to the clients 110 to facilitate interaction by the end users of the distributed file storage system 100.

L5: Entry 3 of 12 File: USPT Nov 30, 2004

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6826566 B2
TITLE: Identifier vocabulary data access method and system

Detailed Description Text (638):
In some implementations, in which browser has access to writing of files to the local disk, the Jave Client downloads the configuration files and its own code to the Client's local computer, so that in future connections this is no longer necessary except when the versions on the server are more recent than the local ones.